

## XXIX.—Descriptions of three new Species of Asiatic Birds.

By ARTHUR, Viscount WALDEN, P.Z.S.

*Phyllornis chlorocephalus*, n. sp.

The Burman representative of the Sumatran and Malaccan *Phyllornis icterocephalus*, Temm. ap. Bonap., has not been hitherto discriminated. It chiefly differs from that species by possessing a much longer bill, by having the crown of the head green and not yellow, and by wanting the intense golden colour of the nape. The frontal plumes are bright yellow. The female (perhaps the young male) has the forehead as well as the crown bright green. Bill from nostril full half an inch; other dimensions as in Malaccan examples (four in number) of *Ph. icterocephalus*, Temm. Described from three adult males and one female, obtained near Tongoo.

The next two species were discovered by Dr. Jerdon, who has kindly asked me to describe them.

*Turdinus striatus*, n. sp.

Feathers of the head, nape, and back cinereous brown, narrowly edged with a rich ruddy brown, changing to dark brown on the margins. Wings and tail pale brown, tinged with rufous. The long and lax upper tail-coverts brown, tipped with ferruginous; under tail-coverts bright rust-colour. Chin, throat, and upper breast-feathers white at the base and on the edges, with brown centres. Abdominal region and flanks pale brown, tinged with rufous. Lores, cheeks, and ear-coverts pale brown. Upper mandible horn-brown; lower paler, inclining to yellow. Legs yellowish brown. Bill from forehead  $\frac{6}{8}$  of an inch, wing  $2\frac{3}{8}$ , tail 2 inches, tarsus  $\frac{7}{8}$ .

Khassia hills, near Cherripoongi.

This interesting species is a diminutive member of the Indo-Malayan genus *Turdinus*. It closely resembles, in its general aspect, *Turdinus macrodactylus* (Strickl.), but is a great deal smaller, and has the throat striated and not pure white.

*Cisticola ruficollis*, n. sp.

Stripe over the eye, ear-coverts, thigh-coverts, flanks, under

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"*Scatella leucostoma*, marine rejectamenta.

" — *æstuans*, among Fuci.

" — *despecta*, sea-coast and sandy places.

"*Teichomyza fusca*, on chalk cliffs a little above high-water mark; swarms also occur in urinatories in London and other towns. Von Heyden, in the 'Entomologische Zeitung, Stettin,' mentions *Cœnia halophilæ* as a sea-side insect. I believe that no European *Stratiomys* has been discovered to live as a larva in sea-brine."

tail-coverts, and a broad band extending from the sides of the neck across the nape bright rufous. Feathers of the head pale fulvous at base, changing to rufous at the extremity; many with broad black centres. Dorsal feathers and wing-coverts black, with narrow fulvous edgings; those on the rump edged and tipped with rufous. Quills dark brown, with yellowish-rufous edgings. Rectrices above also dark brown, the outer webs washed with tawny rufous; tips pale fulvous. Rectrices underneath ashy brown; a bold black bar or spot near the end of each feather, which is terminated with pale fulvous. Lores, chin, cheeks, throat, and remaining under surface fulvous white, more or less tinged on the breast with pale rufous. Upper mandible dark brown; under mandible yellowish at base. Legs reddish yellow. Bill from forehead  $\frac{3}{8}$  of an inch, tarsus  $\frac{5}{8}$ , tail  $2\frac{1}{8}$ , wing  $1\frac{1}{16}$ . In another example the rectrices above want the pale terminal fringe.

Obtained at Debrooghur.

This very distinct species, in its style of coloration, greatly resembles *Graminicola bengalensis*, Jerd. Dr. Jerdon informs me that it occurs all through Assam, but only in dense long grass.

## BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTICE.

*Natural History of the Azores, or Western Islands.* By F. DU CANE GODMAN, F.L.S., F.Z.S., &c. 8vo. London: Van Voorst, 1870.

THE last thirty or forty years have much advanced our knowledge of the physical conditions and productions of those interesting archipelagos or groups of islands which, from about the latitude of Lisbon to a few degrees within the northern tropic, stud the eastern confines of the great Atlantic. We have in the work before us a very useful and valuable addition to our acquaintance with the most northerly and hitherto least thoroughly explored of these four groups.

Mr Godman's personal narrative and observations occupy the smaller portion of the volume. But it brings together various contributions by other able writers on the collections made by him, so as to present a complete *conspectus* of the present state of our acquaintance with the Zoology and Botany of the Azores. Why, by the way, must we ask, does Mr. Godman retain the English barbarian and entirely unwarrantable spelling of the word (arising either from a mistake of the *ç* for the letter *z*, or from a bad representation in English of the Portuguese pronunciation)?

The author's own short narrative of his four months' visit, and account of the few Mammals, Birds, Reptiles, Batrachians, and Freshwater Fishes hitherto observed in the islands, is followed by a long and careful enumeration of the Insects (mainly Coleoptera),